

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United Series Parent and Trademark Office Address Commercial OF PARENTS AND TRADEMARKS Washington, J.C. 2023;

APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKST NO. CONFIRMATION NO. 09/372,039 02/11/1999 TADAYOSHI KONO

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02/03/2002

STAAS & HALSEY LLP 700 11TH STREET, NW

SUITE 500

WASHINGTON, DC 20001

EXAMINER

Parsons, charles e

ART UNIT

FERMUN SERVS

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DATE MAILED: 02/05/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary Examiner The MALLING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address - Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE £ MONTH(S) FROM THE MALLING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. ASHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE £ MONTH(S) FROM THE MALLING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. See Address diversity is evaluated from the processor of the cover sheet with the correspondence address - See Address diversity is evaluated from the processor of the cover sheet with the correspondence address - ASHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE £ MONTH(S) FROM THE MALLING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. ASHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE £ MONTH(S) FROM THE MALLING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. See Address diversity is considered and the communication of the statutor of the statutory information of the statutory and the statutory information of the statutory and the statut		-#	Application No.	Applicant(s)		
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2) Ligit Notice of Chartesterson's Patent Crawing Raylew (PTC-148) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTC-142) 13/15 * RCVD AT 7/5/2007 6:42:76 PM (Eastern Daylight Time) * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-5/16 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID: * DURATION /mm-ss):02-10	2) Notice	of Draibberson's Patent Drawing Raylew (PTQ-348)	5) i Notice of Inf	ormal Patent Application (PTC-152)		

Application/Control Number: 09/372,039 Art Unit: 2613

Page 2

DETAILED ACTION

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Election/Restrictions

1. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: Claims 1-23 show 2 embodiments as illustrated in figures 11 and 15.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, no claims are generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered non-responsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles E Parsons whose telephone number is 703-305-3862. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH 7AM to 4:30PM Fri 7AM to 3:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Kelley can be reached on 703-305-4856. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this

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application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-4750.

February 4, 2002